T-331 P.006/012 F-906

Docket: NECE 20.585 (100806-00229)

2129407049

Application: 10/644,153

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action mailed July 12, 2006. Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested in view of this response.

STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 1-2, 5-10, and 12-14 are pending.

Claims 3-4 and 11 are cancelled.

Claims 1-2, 5-7, and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,879,308 (Hsieh).

Claims 8 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,879,308 (Hsieh) in view of Applicants Allegedly Admitted Prior Art (AAAPA).

Claims 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,879,308 (Hsieh).

OVERVIEW OF CLAIMED INVENTION

In one non-limiting example, a display device comprises a <u>display unit</u> for displaying images and a <u>case</u> having a rigid hollow rectangular cross-section in which said display unit is installed. The case is formed with an opening through which the display device is slid in and out of the hollow rectangular cross-section of said case, wherein the <u>case includes a cover</u> for covering said opening therewith, said <u>cover being formed as a part of said case</u> and wherein the <u>cover is bendable between a first position in which the cover does not close the opening and a second position in which the cover closes the opening.</u>

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In another non-limiting example, a liquid crystal display device comprises a liquid crystal

display unit for displaying images and a case having a rigid hollow rectangular cross-section in

which said liquid crystal display unit is installed. The case is formed with an opening through

which said liquid crystal display unit is slid in and out of the hollow rectangular cross-section of

the case and wherein the liquid crystal display unit is comprised of a backlight unit supplying

backlight to said liquid crystal display panel, a light-quide and a light-reflector both constituting

the backlight unit. The opening is closed by bending a part of said case from an open position to

a closed position.

In yet another non-limiting example, a liquid crystal display device comprises a liquid

crystal display unit for displaying images and a case having a rigid hollow rectangular cross-

section in which the liquid crystal display unit is installed. The case is formed with an opening

through which the liquid crystal display unit is slid in and out of the hollow rectangular cross-

section of the case and wherein the opening is closed by bending one of a part of the case and a

cover composed of the same material as that of said case from an open position to a closed

position.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102 and §103

Claims 1-2, 5-7, and 9-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by

U.S. Patent No. 6,879,308 (hereafter, Hsieh). To be properly rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e),

the cited reference must teach each and every feature of the rejected claims. Applicants contend,

and as will be shown below, that Hsieh fails to teach many features of Applicants' claims.

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Hsieh teaches a housing 10 for receiving a flat panel display and/or a backlight module.

The housing includes a front frame (11) having a central window, wherein the inner edge of the

frame defines an active area for the flat panel display, a bottom frame (12), a side frame (13)

locating between the front frame (11) and the bottom frame (12) to form a space and at least one

opening. At least one separate plate (14) is located on the inside surface of the side frame for

separating the flat panel display and/or a backlight module. The housing includes a stopping

frame (23) having a reflector, a cavity, and pores to prevent the flat panel display or a backlight

module from sliding out of the space.

With respect to claim 1, on page 2 of the Office Action, the Examiner apparently equates

Hsieh's Housing 10 to claim 1's case. Next, on the same page, the Examiner equates Hsieh's

shield 23 to claim 1's cover. Additionally, the Examiner argues, in reliance upon In re Hutchison,

154 F.2d 135, 69 USPQ 138 (CCPA 1946), that that the "bendable" aspect of the claim 1's cover

"does not constitute a limitation in any patentable sense" as it is "not a positive limitation but

only requires the ability to so perform".

However, the In re Hutchison court apparently considered that the preamble phrase

"adapted for use in the fabrication of a metal template or the like" did not "constitute a limitation

in any patentable sense". Specifically, in In re Hutchison, the court concluded that the preamble

phrase "adapted to use in the fabrication of a metal template or the like suitable for metal-

working operations" need not be given any patentable weight as it merely represents a "category"

of use.

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In the present case, in contrast, Applicants wish to note that there is no such introductory

language (i.e., "adapted for") either in the preamble or in the body of the claim. Applicants are

unsure how the Examiner is applying the conclusion of the court in In Re Hutchison regarding

the preamble phrase "adapted for" to read on the positively recited "bendable" feature of the

Applicants' claimed invention. Applicants' claim 1, for example, is specific as to the cover being

bendable between a first position in which the cover does not close the opening and a second

position in which the cover closes the opening.

Claim 1 specifically recites a case that includes a cover which is formed as a part of said

case. With respect to this feature, the Examiner asserts that figure 2 (which is reproduced below)

and corresponding description in column 3, lines 25-27 of Hsieh teaches such a case. However, it

should be noted that the housing 10 does NOT include a cover formed as part of a case. In fact,

as can be seen below, stopping frame 20 is NOT formed as part of housing 10, but is instead

attached by assembling. In Hsieh, stopping frame 20 apparently has a shield 23 that "is used for

preventing the liquid crystal display from sliding out of the space 111 formed by the front frame

11, the separate frame 14 and the side frame 13" (see column 4, lines 2-6 of Hsieh). Absent such

a feature, Hsieh cannot anticipate or render obvious Applicants' claims.

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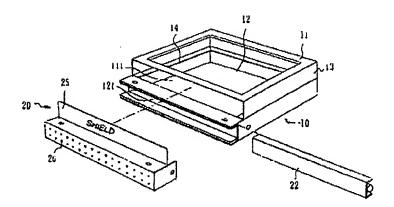


FIG 2 of Hseih (with added text emphasizing location of the "SHIELD")

Additionally, independent claim 1 specifically recites that the "cover is bendable between a first position in which said cover does not close said opening and a second position in which said cover closes said opening". Similarly, independent claim 7 specifically recites a device wherein an opening is closed by bending a part of said case from an open position to a closed position. Further, independent claim 14 specifically recites a device wherein an opening is closed by bending one of a part of the case and a cover composed of the same material as that of said case from an open position to a closed position. By stark contrast, shield 23 of Hsieh is NOT part of the housing 10 and CANNOT be bent between a first and second position. The Examiner, after indicating the term bendable should not be given patentable weight (see above), indicates that the cover in Hsieh can be moved from an attached position to a detached position, and that bending units would be required to bend to engage the frame. However, there is no indication of bending whatsoever in Hsieh. The Examiner attempts to read this feature into Hsieh without any support in Hsieh, but through mere speculation. Absent such a showing, Hsieh cannot anticipate or render obvious Applicants' independent claims 1, 7, and 14.

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Based on the arguments presented above, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to

withdraw the rejections with respect to independent claims 1 and 7, and hereby request allowance

thereof. The above-mentioned arguments substantially apply to dependent claims 2, 5-6, and 9-

10 as they inherit all the features of the claim from which they depend. Therefore, the Examiner

is hereby request to withdraw the rejections with respect to dependent claims 2, 5-6, and 9-10,

and hereby request allowance thereof.

Claims 8 and 13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S.

Patent No. 6,879,308 (Hsieh) in view of Applicants Allegedly Admitted Prior Art (AAAPA).

Claims 12 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent

No. 6,879,308 (Hsieh).

The above-mentioned arguments substantially apply to claims 8, 13, and 14. Hence,

Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103 rejections with

respect to claims 8, 13, and 14, and hereby request allowance thereof.

If the Examiner still feels that the court's conclusion In re Hutchison, 154 F.2d 135, 69

USPQ 138 (CCPA 1946) can be relied on to assert that the term "bendable" does not constitute

patentable matter and/or if the Examiner still feels that the shield 23 of Hsieh is part of the

housing 10 and can be bent between a first and second position, Applicants respectfully remind

the Examiner that it is the duty of the Examiner to specifically point out each and every feature of

a claim being rejected as per §1.104(c)(2) of Title 37 of the Code of Federal Regulations and

section 707 of the M.P.E.P., which explicitly states that "the particular part relied on must be

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designated" and "the pertinence of each reference, if not apparent, must be clearly explained and each rejected claim specified".

SUMMARY

As has been detailed above, none of the references, cited or applied, provide for the specific claimed details of applicants' presently claimed invention, nor renders them obvious. It is believed that this case is in condition for allowance and reconsideration thereof and early issuance is respectfully requested.

As this response has been timely filed, no request for extension of time or associated fee is required. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the fees provided to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

If it is felt that an interview would expedite prosecution of this application, please do not hesitate to contact applicants' representative at the below number.

Respectfully submitted,

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